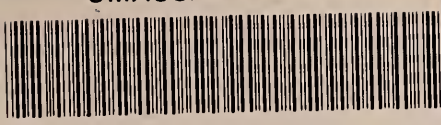


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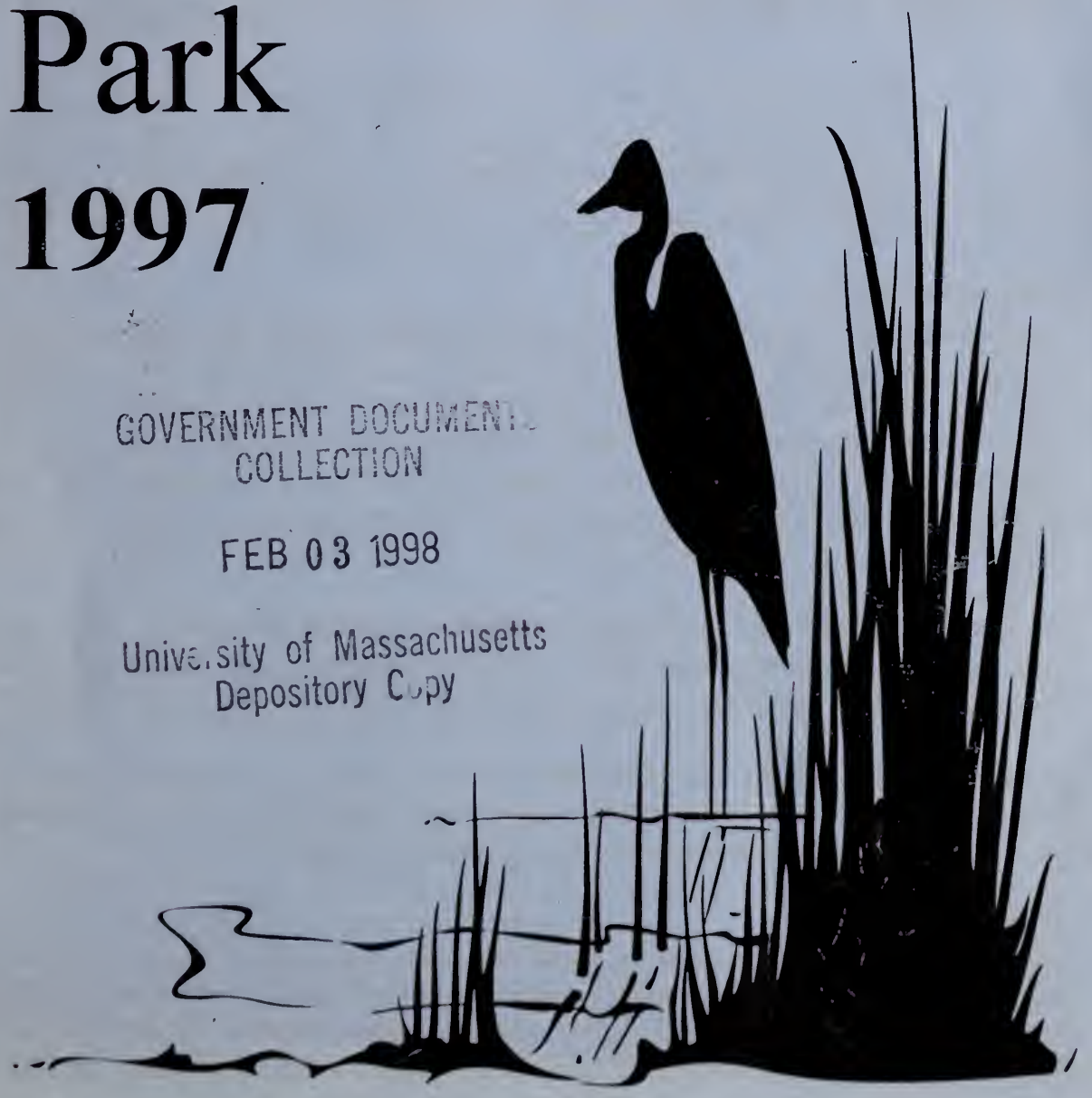


# Boston Harbor Islands State Park 1997

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS  
COLLECTION

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**The Boston Harbor Islands State Park** is now designated a National Recreation Area and is cooperatively managed by the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) and the Department of Environmental Management (DEM). The Park includes Peddock's, Lovell's, George's, Bumpkin, Grape, and Gallops Islands. Public transportation to the Islands is provided exclusively by Boston Harbor Cruises.

The Islands offer a unique solitude just minutes from downtown Boston and abound with cultural and natural history and wildlife. This calendar outlines the programs designed to help you enjoy and appreciate your park to the fullest. Programs are coordinated by the Park Staff, The Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands and Boston Harbor Cruises. Most programs run rain or shine and are free of charge, except where noted. Events are subject to change without notice.

Over the past several years the two Park agencies have been working more closely together to improve park management and service to the public. To help facilitate this a park information kiosk will be built on Long Wharf in May. The reservation system for camping and group permits; program registration and general information has been simplified and a single phone number established. An effort has also been made to standardize park regulations. It is hoped that these changes will result in a more enjoyable experience for all.

For more information and confirmation of events, please contact:

The Boston Harbor Islands State Park	617-727-7676
Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands	617-740-4290
Boston Harbor Cruises	617-227-4321

### **General Information**

The Boston Harbor Islands State Park is open seasonally. George's and Gallops Islands are open daily May 3 through Columbus Day, October 13. The other Islands are open weekends only from May 3 through June 22 and from September 1 through October 13. Gallops, Lovell's, Bumpkin, Grape, and Peddock's Islands are open daily from June 21 through September 2. The Islands are open from 9 am to sunset. Camping is available by permit on Peddock's, Lovell's, Grape and Bumpkin Islands. Visitor orientation, programs, events and emergency assistance are offered by park staff.

Weather on the Islands can be unpredictable and often cooler than the mainland. Please dress in layers even if it is warm, bring a jacket or wind breaker; don't forget a hat, sun screen and sunglasses. There is no water available on any island, so bring plenty to drink for the day.

Picnic tables are available on all islands and grills are available on George's. The George's Island Snack Bar offers a variety of picnic style foods, snacks and soft drinks. Visitors are encouraged to be responsible for their own trash and carry it off.

### **Transportation**

Access to the Islands is available by public ferry from Long Wharf, Boston (next to the Aquarium), Hewitt's Cove, Hingham (Commuter Boat Dock), and Lynn Heritage State Park (weekends only). Ferries dock at George's Island where you can catch a free water taxi to the other islands. Round trip fare is \$7.50/adult, \$6.50/seniors and \$5.50/children. For group

rates and schedule information, contact Boston Harbor Cruises.

Private boats may dock at George's Island free of charge, on a first come first served basis. No broadside docking is allowed. At all other Islands, boaters can off-load at the pier but must anchor offshore. Prams are available to assist in anchoring.

### **Educational/Outreach Programs**

A variety of fun, hands-on educational programs for school and community groups are offered on the Islands. Lessons on the history of the Islands, marine ecology and other topics can be adapted to meet the needs of individual groups. Curriculum packets are available for Island activities. Slide presentations and talks for community groups can be arranged by calling the Park Office. All programs are free of charge but subject to staff availability.

### **Island Tours.**

Tours are offered by Park Rangers on all islands, on a regular basis. Tours are usually forty-five minutes to an hour long and cover a variety of topics including the island's cultural and military history, wildflowers, birds, and marine ecology. The tour schedule usually corresponds with the Water Taxi. Ask a Ranger for details.

### **Naturalist Walks on George's Island**

Dominated by Fort Warren, the natural history of George's Island is often overlooked. Join Park Staff and volunteer naturalists during regular schedule times for an hour long "Walk on the Wild Side". These programs begin at the Information Booth on George's Island.

### **Kiddleidoscope**

The Kiddleidoscope Program is a nature oriented program on Grape Island, for 3 to 6 year-olds and a favorite adult. Activities include stories, games, and multisensory activities. The program is offered on Tuesday mornings, June 24 through August 26 and is free of charge. Access from Hingham at 10:00 am only and costs \$3.00 per person. Please register by the previous Friday at 727-7676. (Space is Limited)

### **Island Adventures on Gallops**

These programs are held Thursday mornings at 11:15 am to 1:15 pm, June 26 through August 28. Programs are geared to 7 to 12 year-olds and a favorite adult feature an island walk followed by a related activity: invent secret codes, become a tideline archaeologist, tie nautical knots, munch on wild edible plants. Programs are free, take the 11:00 am water taxi from George's Island. Bring a picnic lunch.

### **Slide Shows**

Slide presentations of Peddock's, Lovell's and George's Islands and other historic topics will be offered on George's Island. Presentations will be shown in the Mine Casemate Theater. Check the George's Island information Booth for details.

### **Walks at Webb (Webb State Park, Weymouth)**

Walks take place once a month on Sundays June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7 at 8:00 am to 9:30 am. Explore the natural and cultural history of this scenic peninsula that extends into Hingham Bay. The focus will be on the native and exotic plants of the Harbor Region. Seniors are especially welcome.



way. Join a Ranger on a walk discovering the flora and fauna that exists on the lone wind swept Island. Learn how the plants and animals changed, and why they have changed throughout time. Don't forget to bring your camera and binoculars.

### **Sunset Cruise to Thompson's Island**

Tuesday, June 24

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Join the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands on a narrated boat cruise to visit an Island and watch the sunset. Bring a picnic supper and your camera. Contact the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands for more information.

### **Tunes and Tales**

Saturday, June 28

1:00 pm and 3:00 pm

See description for May 31

### **HarborFest Treasure Hunt**

Tuesday, July 1 - Sunday, July 6

10:00 am - 3:00 pm (George's, Lovell's, Peddock's Islands)

Kick off the summer season by joining the Park Staff on a treasure hunt and explore the many Islands of Boston Harbor. This five day, family oriented event is part of the HarborFest activities. Contact the Park Office at 727-7676 for more information

### **Grape: Island with Appeal**

Saturday and Sunday, July 12 - 13

A weekend of special events on and about Grape Island: tours, wild edibles walks, family activities, crafts, and demonstrations, a campfire program on the beach - and a few surprises.

### **Tunes and Tales**

Saturday, July 12

1:00 pm and 3:00 pm

See description for May 31

### **Sunset Cruise to Grape Island**

Tuesday, July 15

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

See description for June 24

### **Lifesaving on the Harbor**

Saturday, July 19

12:00 noon - 4:00 pm (Lovell's Island)

A tragic shipwreck off Lovells' shore inspired over a century of lifesaving efforts in Massachusetts. Learn the History of the U.S. Coast Guard through rowing and rescue demonstrations by the Hull Lifesaving Museum. Contact the Park Office for more information.

### **Children's Festival**

Sunday, July 20

11:00 am - 5:00 pm (Lovell's, George's, Peddock's Islands)

The Islands will be geared up for summer fun! We will be making ice cream, flying kites, telling stories and much more. A children's concert featuring Kids Break, will take place on George's Island in the afternoon. Participants are encouraged to catch the 10 am boat to make the most of this wonderful family event.

### **Tunes and Tales**

Saturday, July 26

1:00 pm and 3:00 pm

See description for May 31

### **To Build a Fort**

Saturday, July 26

11:00 am and 1:00 pm

The mid 1800's marked a very busy time for the stone cutters at the granite quarries in Quincy and Cape Ann. Granite blocks were shipped by rail and boat to the Islands of Boston Harbor to build Fort Warren and Fort Independence. This program will include a tour of Fort Warren to explore the history of fort construction and will include a stone cutting demonstration using historic tools and methods.

### **Sunset Cruise to Lovell's Island**

Tuesday July 29

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

See description for June 24

### **Peddock's Island Naturally**

Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3

### **Masters of the Marsh**

Saturday, August 2

11:00 am (Peddock's Island)

Salt marsh once covered much of the Boston area and 75% of the ocean life depends on the marsh for food and raising their young. Join Park naturalist and learn more about one of the most productive ecosystems on earth. Meet at George's Island and take the taxi to Peddock's Island. Bring a picnic lunch and be prepared to get your feet wet.

### **Seaside Salad and Sumac Tea.**

Sunday, August 3

1:00 pm and 3:00 pm (George's Island)

Join Park naturalist John Nove for a little snack on George's Island. Participants will learn to identify common edible plants and various ways to prepare them. Prepared samples will be available for tasting. Bring your curiosity and your taste buds.

### **Peddock's Naturally**

Sunday, August 3

See description for June 15

### **Sunset Cruise to George's Island**

Tuesday, August 5

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Legends of George's Island

### **Bumkin, Bomkin, Pumkin, Round**

Saturday and Sunday, August 9 - 10

A weekend of special events on and about Bumpkin Island: tours, wild edibles

walks, family activities, crafts and demonstrations, a campfire program on the beach - and a few surprises.

### **Sunset Cruise to Peddock's Island**

Tuesday, August 12

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

See description on June 24

### **Civil War Weekend**

Saturday and Sunday, August 16 and 17

### **Civil War Encampment**

Saturday and Sunday, August 16 and 17

11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Join the Union and Confederate Volunteers at Fort Warren for the 24th annual Civil War Encampment. Historic re-enactors will demonstrate military drills, camp life, and military and civilian dress. The triumphs and tragedies of the Civil War will be brought to life at one of New England's premier Civil War sites. Sunday participants are encouraged to come early to make the most of this unique experience. Contact the Park Office for more information.

### **Gallops in the Civil War**

Sunday, August 17

11:15 am and 1:15 pm

Thousands of soldiers, including the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Regiment, whose story was featured in the film "Glory," passed through Gallops Island on their way south or on their way home. Learn about the camp and its barracks, then visit the site of a cemetery in which 13 soldiers were buried.

### **Tunes and Tales**

Saturday and Sunday, August 16 and 17

1:00 pm and 3:00 pm

See description for May 31

### **Edward Rowe Snow Day**

Sunday, August 24

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Perhaps no one person has had a more dramatic impact on the Boston Harbor Islands State Park than the late Edward Rowe Snow. Through his many books, newspaper articles, and tours, this adventurous school teacher/historian brought the romance of the harbor's history to life and rallied for its preservation as a park. Join Ed's family, friends, the Park Staff and the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands in celebrating the anniversary of his birthday. The days activities will include video presentations, personal reminiscences by those who knew Mr. Snow, tours highlighting Ed's stories and a folk music concert. Contact the Park Office for more information.

### **A Maryland Rebel in a Yankee Bastille Labor Day**

Monday, September 1

11:00 am and 1:00 pm, (George's Island)  
Join the spirit of Doctor Charles Macgill, of Hagerstown Maryland, in a stroll through Ft. Warren as he reminisces about his confinement at the Fort, as a political prisoner during the Civil War. This Living History Tour will take approximately 1 hour.

### **Sunset Cruise to Gallops Island**

Tuesday, August 26

6:15 pm - 9:00 pm

Special folk music program

Call the Friends for more information.

### **Tunes and Tales**

Saturday, September 6

1:00 pm and 3:00 pm

See description for May 31

### **Applefest**

Sunday, September 21

11:00 am - 3:00 pm. (Gallops Island)

Celebrate Gallops' wild-fruit harvest with apple cider, carmel apples, apple games, apple art, beach- plum jelly, rose hip jam and iced tea, and blackberry cobbler.

### **Fall Foliage Trip**

Saturday, October 4 - Monday, October 6

Autumn is a beautiful time of year on the islands. Enjoy a cruise to one of the Islands to enjoy a colorful Fall day. Contact the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands for more information.

### **Halloween on the Harbor**

Saturday, October 25

12:00 noon - 4:00 pm (George's Island)

Join the Lady in Black for a spooky fun time at Fort Warren. Activities include a haunted tour of the fort, games, music, and more. Dress in your best for the costume contest. Contact the Park Office at 727-7676 for more information.

**Boston Harbor Islands State Park**

**98 Taylor Street**

**Dorchester, MA 02122**

**(617) 727-7676**